

Message Text

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SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON HUANG HUA, FOREIGN MINISTER
OF THE PRC AND FORMER PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN

STATE 297606 (NOTAL)

1. HUANG HUA WAS HIS COUNTRY'S FIRST PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS FROM THE ADMITTANCE OF THE PRC TO THE UN IN 1971. DURING THIS PAST FIVE YEARS, USUN MEMBERS FOUND HIM TO BE INDUSTRIOUS, COMPETENT, AND MORE THAN EQUAL TO THE TASK OF TAKING ON THE SOVIETS IN SINO-SOVIET TIFFS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND UNGA BODIES. HE WAS GENERALLY CALM AND ALWAYS IMPERTURBABLE. HE OPERATED WITH OBVIOUS CONFIDENCE AND SELF-ASSURANCE, REFLECTING THE INTENSE DRIVE, NATIONAL PRIDE AND FIRM OBJECTIVES OF THE REGIME BEHIND HIM. THE ONLY TIME THAT HUANG HUA LOST HIS NORMAL "COOL" WAS WHEN, ACKNOWLEDGING SPEECHES OF SYMPATHY AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL AFTER MAO'S DEATH, TEARS CAME TO HIS EYES AND HE CHOKED UP. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH HIS COLLEAGUES AT USUN, HE WAS FRIENDLY AND URBANE, ALTHOUGH HE COULD BE ABRUPT WITH A TOUCH OF ARROGANCE. HE ALSO APPEARED WELL-LIKED BY HIS STAFF. UNLIKE HIS STAFF, HUANG HUA WORE WELL-TAILORED CLOTHES OF FINE MATERIAL; NOT MAO-ISSUED. WHILE MEMBERS OF HIS MISSION REFLECTED HIS CAUTION IN EXPRESSING THEMSELVES ON NEW SUBJECTS. THEY MANIFESTED A CONFIDENCE BORN OF GOOD LEADERSHIP.

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2. HUANG HUA WAS A SOLICITIOUS AND RELAXED HOST AT THE

SMALL DINNER PARTIES HE GAVE AT HIS MISSION. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS ALWAYS WARM AND PERSONAL. HIS WIFE HO LI-LIANG, WAS GENTLE AND QUIET IN MANNER, ALTHOUGH A FULL-FLEDGED PROFESSIONAL IN WORK AT THE MISSION. (SHE REPRESENTED CHINA IN THE SIXTH COMITE). SHE WAS QUITE INTERESTED IN BOTANY AND ENJOYED DISCUSSING GARDENING AND FLOWERS. HUANG HUA WAS AN AVID READER AND APPEARED VERY FAMILIAR WITH WESTERN CLASSICS. SEVERAL TIMES, HE TALKED ABOUT A PAINFUL BACK (CAUSE NOT KNOWN) WHICH WAS ONLY PARTIALLY CURED BY ACUPUNCTURE IN THE SUMMER OF 1975. HE WAS SELDOM SEEN IN PUBLIC DURING THE LAST FEW WEEKS OF HIS TENURE IN NEW YORK, BECAUSE OF HIS BACK PROBLEM, ACCORDING TO SOME OF HIS STAFF. HE ALSO USED HIS CONDITION AS THE REASON FOR MAKING NO FAREWELL CALLS--"EVEN ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL", SOME DIPLOMATS COMMENTED.

3. HUANG HUA TOOK THE LONG VIEW OF SUCH ISSUES AS ANGOLA, AND SHOWED A STRONG AVERSION TO THE SOVIETS. IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH US AMBASSADORS IN NEW YORK, HUANG HUA BORED IN ON THE NECESSITY OF THE US TO HAVE THE INTERNAL FORTITUDE TO STAND UP TO THE RUSSIANS. IN ONE CONVERSATION CONCERNING THE SOVIET-INSPIRED AND ASSISTED CUBAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA, HE REMARKED, "BUT IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER: ACCORDING TO AN OLD CHINESE PROVERB 'WHEN THERE'S A MAN ON A HORSE, SHOOT THE HORSE FIRST'. (THIS WAS TAKEN TO MEAN THAT THE US SHOULD STRIKE DIRECTLY AGAINST THE SOVIETS FOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA)). IN ANOTHER CONVERSATION, HE AGAIN BROUGHT UP HIS CONCERN THAT THE US WOULD NOT STAND UP TO THE SOVIETS, ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO VARIOUS PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. FINALLY , IN A LENGTHY CONVERSATION IN SEPTEMBER 1976, HE GAVE A THIRTY-FIVE MINUTE LECTURE ON THE INIQUITY OF THE SOVIETS AND ASKED REPEATEDLY WHETHER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, APART FROM THE US GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, HAD THE WILL TO STAND FIRM AGAINST THE RUSSIANS. HE REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE AMERICAN BACKBONE.

4. HUANG HUA EMPHASIZED TO GOVERNOR SCRANTON AFTER MAO'S DEATH THAT MAO'S THECHINGS AND POLICIES WOULD REMAIN CHINA'S GUIDE. AS ALREADY STRESSED, HUANG HUA WAS NEVER AT A LOSS

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TO UNDERSCORE TO US THE MAGNITUDE OF THE SOVIET THREAT. HE DEPLORED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A REPETITION OF THE POLICIES OF DELADIER AND CHAMBERLIN IN EUROPE. HE SAW THE UK ALREADY EXPERIENCING AND FACING NEW ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL "DUNKERQUES". ACCORDINGLY, IT SEEMS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT HE PUTS IMPORTANT STORE ON SINO-US RELATIONS AND ON CHINESE RESTRAINT IN POLICIES AFFECTING US INTERESTS. IT CAN BE NOTED THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1975, IMMEDIATELY

FOLLOWING CHINA'S SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION SPEECH (WHICH
TOOK THE US AND THE USSR TO TASK), HUANG HUA TOLD
SENATOR PERCY THAT THE US SHOULD KNOW WELL THE "REAL
TARGET" OF THE SPEECH (USUN 4022, 9/4/75).

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